



Ecton Parish Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Ecton Parish Council** held in the Village Hall, High Street, Ecton on **Tuesday 22nd November 2022** at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr I Whittaker (Chair), Mr D Dicks (Vice Chair) Mr N Bond, Mr J Fernley, Mr S Grisewood, Mr A McCarter

Also Present: Mrs S Wong (Clerk) and North Northants Cllr Lora Lawman and Sam Philips

Item No	
902/2022	<p>To Receive Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr G Littlewood. Unitary Cllrs C Hallam and S Brown had other commitments.</p>
903/2022	<p>To invite declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda A Declaration of Interest was received from Cllr Mr N Bond with regards to agenda item 910/A – Grant application from the PCC.</p>
904/2022	<p>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 27th September 2022 It was RESOLVED the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council held on the 27th September 2022, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Mr I Whittaker.</p>
905/2022	<p>Receive an update from Samuel Philips regarding the parcel of land attached to 2 Wellingborough Road Sam Philips discussed his wish to purchase the parcel of land attached to 2Wellingborough Road. He is finding the process difficult as he is unable to find out who owns the land. Unitary Cllr L Lawman suggested he contact the Planning Department who may be able to advise him further.</p>
906/2022	<p>Parish Council Vacancies - Discuss any applications and co-option on to the Parish Council The Parish Council has two current vacancies for the position of Parish Councillor. No new applications have been received. Action: The Clerk will continue to promote the vacancies with new posters on the website, social media and notice boards.</p>
907/2022	<p>To receive a report from North Northants Councillors Cllr L Lawman gave an update on current consultations. With regards to the Parliamentary Boundary review it is looking likely there will be no changes to Ectons. The review is still open until the 5th of December to make submissions. The new green waste charge will be £40 per year and will come into effect from April 2023. NCC are sorting out their Section 106 agreements processes.</p>
908/2022	<p>Progress any matters arising from the previous minutes not covered by agenda Items The Clerk was informed by BT Openreach the repair to the manhole cover outside 8 Wellingborough Road was being dealt with. Cllr D Dicks reported the works are still outstanding. Action: The Clerk will contact BT Open reach again.</p>

909/2022	<p>Discuss and agree whether to submit anything to the parish newsletter It was agreed that the chair Cllr I Whittaker should submit something to the newsletter when required. It was RESOLVED to keep the PC meeting dates as they are. Action: IW to contact Wendy Stephens.</p>																																													
910/2022	<p>Financial Matters a Review of financial statement as at 22/11/22 and propose payments and sign cheques It was RESOLVED to approve payments to be made in November 2022 (Appendix A). The Clerk reported the Bank Balances to date as reconciled to the bank statement were as follows: Current Account £50.00 Reserves Account £25,683.37 This is broken down into David Cross Funds £3,888.59, Playing Field Funds £33.50 and Parish Council Funds £21,811.28. Income received since 27th September – Bank Interest £14.97.</p> <p>b Receive any updates regarding updating to online banking Things are progressing with the online Bankline application. The Clerk has received an email from Natwest Bank today saying the application is currently being processed.</p> <p>c Discuss and approve draft budget for 2023/2024 and agree level of precept for 2023/2024 Appendix B The Clerk presented a 2023/24 budget prior to the meeting. It was RESOLVED to accept the budget as it is, and no amendments were necessary.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="360 981 1299 1249"> <tr> <td>TOTAL INCOME 2022/ 2023</td> <td>33,908.98</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>LESS TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2022/ 2023</td> <td>16,756.10</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PARISH FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD TO 2023/2024</td> <td></td> <td>17,152.88</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ANTICIPATED VAT REFUND TO 31.3.23</td> <td>1,201.22</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>GRASS MOWING GRANT</td> <td>152.97</td> <td>18,507.07</td> <td>Total funds to c/f to 23-24</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>BUDGET FOR 2023/2024</td> <td>20,675.00</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PLUS 10% CONTINGENCY</td> <td>2,067.50</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td></td> <td>22,742.50</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>PC FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD TO 2023/2024</td> <td>18,507.07</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>However a decision couldn't be reached on setting the precept level, this will be revisited at the next PC meeting being held in January 2023.</p> <p>d Discuss and agree to give a grant of £300 to the PCC to help with tree maintenance costs It was RESOLVED to award the PCC £300 to help towards their tree maintenance costs of £520 at the closed churchyard. They have already secured finding of £200 towards the costs from a private donation.</p>	TOTAL INCOME 2022/ 2023	33,908.98				LESS TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2022/ 2023	16,756.10				PARISH FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD TO 2023/2024		17,152.88			ANTICIPATED VAT REFUND TO 31.3.23	1,201.22				GRASS MOWING GRANT	152.97	18,507.07	Total funds to c/f to 23-24		BUDGET FOR 2023/2024	20,675.00				PLUS 10% CONTINGENCY	2,067.50				TOTAL		22,742.50			PC FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD TO 2023/2024	18,507.07			
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911/2022	<p>To discuss any correspondence received a Discuss the Parliamentary Boundary Commission Review and agree any response to be made. It was agreed the PC do not need to comment on the review. b Discuss the Northampton Plan Part 2 – Proposed further main modifications and agree any response to be made It was agreed the PC do not need to comment on the review.</p>																																													
912/2022	<p>Village Services a Receive any update reports on the Playing Field Seagrave Inspections will be carrying out the annual play equipment health and safety check shortly.</p>																																													

	<p>b Receive updates and discuss any village maintenance matters inc Lower Ecton Lane. With regards to the hedges along Lower Ecton Lane, some work has been carried out around the traveller’s site and some ivy has been reduced but that is all. Action: The Clerk will contact Ben Wright for an update. Cllr L Lawman believes the new traffic calming measures for the A4500 will be agreed by Highways shortly and will chase Ian Boyes for an update.</p> <p>c Receive updates and discuss any fly tipping issues There has been a large fly tip of earth, rubble, asbestos this week. Councillors have been reporting all fly tipping reports online.</p> <p>d Discuss and agree how often to top up the parish grit bins with salt Cllr D Dicks has noticed that the grit bin number 722 is one of the most important grit bins in the parish as it sits at a busy junction. This bin was passed over to the PC a few years ago by Highways. This bin is used the most in the village and needs topping up regularly. Should the PC try and get Highways to take it back? Action: Cllr L Lawman will report to Highways for filling up. The PC will wait to see if this is completed and revisit the issue again as to whether it should be readopted by Highways.</p> <p>e Discuss and agree whether to accept quote for upgrading to new LED lighting and next steps. With regards to upgrading the streetlights in the conservation area, the Clerk had been advised that these works would be covered under Class A, Part 12 (Development by local authorities), Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) and would not therefore require planning permission. Action: Clerk to contact SSE to ask about drop in electricity prices due to current updates to LEDs and put together an analysis of costs for the upgrading of all lights to be discussed at the next PC meeting.</p>
913/2022	<p>Councillors Reports and discuss any items to be considered for the next agenda Cllr A McCarter reported that the Village Hall Committee will be approaching the PC for financial assistance in January for help towards the costs of the Warm Spaces initiative they will be organising, which covers feeding everyone that attends the seasons. They will be looking for funding help to cover 4-5 sessions that cost around £50/£60 per season for meal costs. Action: The Village Hall Committee need to put their request in writing to the Clerk so it can be included on the next agenda.</p>
914/2022	<p>Discuss any planning related matters including those not yet determined WNN/2022/1209 – Billing Aquadrome Lawful Development Certificate for proposed use of land for siting of up to 3039 Static Caravans Action: The clerk will write to WNC about the PC’s concerns with regards that granting this certificate of lawfulness will result in a significant increase in caravans and subsequent traffic on Crow Lane (and possibly increased rat running though Ecton). It is already an unsafe junction between Lower Ecton Lane and Crow Lane. If the council were to grant this, the PC would expect that they improve the junction (possibly including a mini roundabout to help slow traffic from the A45 roundabout) other objections will include ownership of the land, removal of trees and flooding issues.</p>
915/2022	<p>Date of next meetings –Tuesday 22nd November 2022 It was RESOLVED to hold the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 22nd November 2022 in Ecton Village Hall at 7.30pm. Close: The meeting ended at 9.40pm.</p>

Signed byDate

Appendix A

910/2022 Financial Matters

Review Financial Statement as at 22/11/2022 and propose payments and sign cheques

Monies must be paid out only in pursuance of statutory powers (SP) vested in the Parish Council.

RESOLVED balances as presented are accepted. **RESOLVED** the following accounts are paid.

Chq Number	Amount	Inc VAT of	Payee	Details	Power
759	22.68	1.07	Southern Electric	Electricity Standing Charges to 4.10.22	Highways Act
760	298.71	14.22	Southern Electric	Electricity Standing Charges to 4.10.22	Highways Act
761	20.00	0.00	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath	S137
762	978.00	163.00	Hayeswood Landscapes	Grass Cutting Sept & Oct and weed control	Open Spaces Act
763	13.50	2.25	Shirley Wong	Expenses - Stationery	LGA 1972 112
764	563.54	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary 22.11.22 32hours @ LCP 24 £517.12 Pay increase back pay £54.08 Office & Broadband £70.84 Mileage 38.6miles @ .64ppm £24.70 Tax deductions £103.20	LGA 1972 s 112
765	103.20	0.00	HMRC	Tax S Wong £103.20	LGA 1972 s 112
756	300.00	0.00	Ecton PCC	Grant towards tree felling costs	LGA 1972 s.215

Total of Cheques Raised £2,299.63

Appendix B

910/2022 Financial Matters

ECTON PARISH COUNCIL - BUDGET SETTING FOR 2023/24						
Appendix B - Minutes 22nd November 2022						
	1.4.22 TO 31.3.23					
INCOME						
FUNDS AS 14.22	21,183.88					
PRECEPT	12,335.00					
BRIAN BECK BENCH	399.00					
GRASS MOWING GRANT	152.97					
VAT REFUND 2021/22	782.44					
BANK INTEREST	19.39					
CANCELLED CHQ 712 ADJ	246.00					
PLAYING FIELD INT ADJ	-1,209.70					
TOTAL INCOME	33,908.98					
	COSTS FROM 1.4.22 TO 22.11.22	ANTICIPATED COSTS TO 31.3.24	TOTAL TO 31.3.22	BUDGETED FOR 2022/23	ACTUAL DIFFERENCE IN BUDGET	BUDGETED FOR 2023/24
EXPENSES						
CLERKS SALARY & HMRC	2,969.10	2,000.00	4,969.10	4,500.00	-469.10	5,500.00
STREET LIGHTING INC BULB CONVER	1,460.65	2,322.00	3,782.65	4,000.00	217.35	5,000.00
INSURANCE	599.63	0.00	599.63	800.00	200.37	650.00
VERGE MOWING	2,265.00	0.00	2,265.00	2,500.00	235.00	2,800.00
INTERNAL AUDIT FEES	190.00	0.00	190.00	250.00	60.00	250.00
EXTERNAL AUDIT FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
NCALC SUBSCRIPTION	309.72	0.00	309.72	325.00	15.28	325.00
DONATION - CHURCHYARD MAINTEN	1,550.00	300.00	1,850.00	2,000.00	150.00	2,000.00
DONATION - PARISH MAGAZINE	500.00	0.00	500.00	750.00	250.00	750.00
S137 WREATH	20.00	0.00	20.00	25.00	5.00	25.00
DATA PROTECTION RENEWAL	0.00	40.00	40.00	45.00	5.00	45.00
HIRE OF MEETING ROOM	174.00	0.00	174.00	150.00	-24.00	200.00
TRAINING	44.00	44.00	88.00	200.00	112.00	100.00
STATIONERY / TONER	80.92	40.00	120.92	180.00	59.08	180.00
DOMAIN RENEWAL/ZOOM FEES	50.36	0.00	50.36	0.00	-50.36	0.00
PLAY EQUIP INSPECTION	0	130.00	130.00	150.00	20.00	150.00
ELECTION COSTS	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PLAY AREA	365.50	100.00	465.50	100.00	-365.50	500.00
VAT	702.82	498.40	1,201.22	1,600.00	398.78	2,000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	11,281.70	5,474.40	16,756.10	17,775.00	1,018.90	20,675.00
NOTES						
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